THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—OTHELLO.

No. 2327. *Thursday, May* 28, 1829. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing!"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

Drury Lane Theatre.

LAST night, Mr. Stage Manager Cooper, had his benefit here, and we are pleased to say a profitable one, as there was a very excellent house. The entertainments were, *The Jealous Wife,* admirably acted by Miss Phillips, Messrs. Young, Liston, and Farren. Singing by Madame Malibran Garcia, and the Opera of *Masaniello; or, The Dumb Girl of Portici.*

Covent Garden Theatre.

THE performances here, were for the Benefit of the Printers' Pension Society, and considering their claim on the public, saying nothing of the excellent bill of fare, ought to have attracted a better box audience; the pit and galleries were quite full. In the first piece, *The Castle of Andalusia,* Madame Vestris contributed her valuable services in the character of *Lorenza,* which she played with great spirit, and was most unmercifully encored, as was Mr. Wood in almost all his songs, in the part of *Fernando. Don Cœsar* introduced a gentleman, who made his first appearance on any stage;—he possesses a fine voice, and promises to become a very useful performer in that line of character; study and perseverance will do much for him:—his reception was, last night, very flattering; two of his songs, (viz.—'Flow thou regal purple stream,' and 'The Wolf,') were encored:—altogether, he acquitted himself with much greater respectability than is usually seen in such novices.

Blanchard in *Don Scipio,* was as quaint as usual. Keeley, in *Spado,* was irresistably comic;—he kept the audience in a constant roar. J. Reeve's *Pedrillo,* was also droll enough, though rather coarse; how much this actor would benefit his performance by softening it down a little. Miss Forde exhibited a stout pair of legs in *Alphonso,* as did little Harriet Cawse in *Philippo,* but both went through what was allotted to them with becoming spirit. Miss Goward rendered the trifling character of *Catalina,* of more than usual importance, by the archness of her acting. We had nearly forgotten Miss Byfeld's *Victoria,* which was too respectable to be past over.

There was a sort of miscellaneous selection after the Play; the most prominent parts of which were Vestris's songs, and Keeley's address, in the character of a Printer's Devil; the lines were by Moncrieffe, and delivered by Keeley with infinite point and humor, eliciting immense applause. A beautiful ballad, entitled 'The Land which no mortal may know,' composed by Mrs. H. Shelton, was most rapturously encored, we may add, deservedly so, as the composition was

truly chaste and elegant, and the favorite of the night, Mr. Wood, did justice to it. A Mr. Gear and a young lady, (pupil of Signor Crevelli) contributed their services with much success; the former gave 'Said a smile to a tear,' with great taste. *Charles the Second* concluded.

ASTLEY'S.—LAST night, the Queen of Portugal honored this Theatre with her presence, and seemed highly delighted with the entertainments. On Monday night, her Majesty was at Covent Garden, and on Tuesday, at the Opera.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

DEAR MR. EDITOR, I address you from the Cigar Divan, King-street, Covent Garden, having just popt in to luxuriate on a capital cup of Coffee, and a true Havannah—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

On Monday, must take another peep at the two new views, at the DIORAMA, Regent's Park—was puzzled to decide which was the most beautiful, St. Peter's or the Village of Thiers—both exquisitely painted—the pictorial illusion complete—the water flowing, smoke ascending, sun shining—quite nature itself.—Had difficulty to persuade a fair lady next me, that we were really viewing merely pictures. Shall put off my journey to Italy, as I'm told, *sub rosa*, we shall other views from that classic soil; and if as good as St. Peter's will satisfy me.

On Tuesday, I drop into the Exhibition of Sculpture, in Old Bond Street, to view the figures, life size, of Tam O'Shanter and Souter Johnny—work of a self-taught artist, James Thom—delighted beyond measure—fully expected to hear Tam's uproarious laugh—the expression so perfect; *pose* of figures admirable. Whoever has read Burns, (and who has not?) must see them.

On Wednesday, I step into the Horse Bazaar, Baker Street—inspect the magnificent Exhibition of Musical and Mechanical Automa—Musical Lady, Juvenile Artist, Rope Dancer, Magician, Walking Figure, a magnificent Vase, made by order of Napoleon, Birds, &c. In the afternoon, I qualify Mrs. P.'s discordant notes with some harmony divine, and may be found between 1 and 4 o'clock, at *The Apollonicon*; in St. Martin's Lane.

On Thursday, I shall be found, with my Spectacles off, admiring the truly grand display of the Wonders of Nature—I don't mean the Naturals called Fops, but the Microscopic Wonders, and Living Picture of Regent Street, exhibited by Mr. Carpenter, the Optician, in Regent Street. In the evening, I drop into Covent Garden Theatre to see *The Invincibles*, with *The Sublime and Beautiful*—always put me in a good humour—I am never tired of hearing Wood's 'Fairest Flower,' and Miss Hughes's 'Hunter's Signal Horn'—beautifully sung—nightly encored.

On Friday, I shall look in on Mr. Finn, in Regent Street, at his *Fancy Glass-working Exhibition*—an ingenious pretty Workshop. Afterwards, I drop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square.

On my way to Drury Lane Theatre, *Walker's* handsome Irish Whiskey Store, 17, Catherine Street, attracted my attention—stept in, with my "Hope I don't intrude—met what Mrs. Pry and I have been searching London for, for years—genuine unadulterated Malt Whiskey—ordered home some of it, and, after a copious trial, recommended this delicious and exhilirating beverage to my friends as an infallible remedy against "*The Blue Devils*."

Now having given you my week's perambulations, I'll kill an hour over one or two of eight Morning and Evening Papers at this aforesaid Divan, King Street—skim the Magazines, take a peep at a Chess match going on, whiff another Cigar, and then for the play—"the play's the thing"—but I intrude—beg pardon.

Your's, PAUL PRY.

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Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, the Comedy of The

Suspicious Husband.

Ranger, Mr C. KEMBLE,
Strictland, Mr EGERTON, Bellamy, Mr RAYMOND
Frankly, Mr WRENCH,
Tester, Mr MEADOWS, Buckle, Mr TURNOUR,
Jack Meggot, Mr GREEN.
Mrs Strictland..... Mrs CHATTERLEY,
Clarinda, Miss JARMAN,
Jacintha, Miss NELSON, Lucetta, Mrs GIBBS,
Landlady, Mrs DALY, Milliner, Mrs BROWN.

After which, Milton's Masque of

COMUS.

The original Music by HANDEL & Dr. ARNE, with Additions by BISHOP.
The Overture by CHERUBINI.
The Scenery by Messrs. GRIEVE, T. GRIEVE, W. GRIEVE, &c.
Comus, Mr C. KEMBLE,
First Spirit, Mr DURUSET, Second Spirit, Miss H. CAWSE,
Brothers, Mr HOLL and Miss J. SCOTT,
Bacchants, Mess. PHILLIPS, B. TAYLOR, STANSBURY, ISAACS,
Purday, Henry, Mears, Ashton, Birt, Caulfield, Crumpton, &c.
Satyrs, Mr ELLAR and Mr T. BLANCHARD,
The Lady....Miss HUGHES, First Bacchante....Miss BYFELD,
Second ditto, Miss FORDE, Third ditto, Miss GOWARD,
Euphrosyne.....Miss COVENEY, Sabrina.....Miss CAWSE.

The following is a succession of the Scenery, Airs, &c.

Song, 'Nor on beds of fading flowers,' Miss H. CAWSE.
Scene, **Ethereal Abode of the Spirits,** with a **Wood**, &c
Song, 'Phœbus sinketh,' Mr Phillips, 'By dimpled brook,' Miss Goward.
Duet, 'From tyrant laws,' Mr B. Taylor and Miss Byfeld.
BACCHANALIAN DANCE, with a Pas de Cinque, by Mons. D'Albert,
Mesdames Vedy, Bedford, Thomasin, Griffiths.
Song, 'Sweet Echo,' Miss HUGHES.
Scene **A Labyrinth.** Song, By the gaily circling glass, Mr Phillips.
Sung, 'Would you taste the noon-tide air,' Miss Byfeld.
Quartet, 'Live and Love,' Mr Taylor, Mr Purday, Miss Forde, Miss Goward.
Chorus, 'Away, away, to Comus's Court repair.
Scene **The Palace of Comus.** Laughing Song, and Chorus.
Song, 'Bid me Discourse,' Miss Coveney. 'The wanton god,' Ditto.
'Preach me not,' Mr Stansbury. 'Sabrina, Goddess, hear,' Mr Duruset.
Scene **Sabrina's Submarine Palace.**
Recitative, and Air, 'Shepherd 'tis my Office,'.....Miss Cawse.
Scene **The Aerial Temple of Bliss.**
Air and Chorus, 'Mortals that would happy be,' Miss H. Cawse, &c.

To-morrow, for the Benefit of Miss Paton—Madlle Sontag, and her Sister, will sing; after which, The Marriage of Figaro; with Clari, and Giovanni in London.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, (4th time) a new Historical Play, in three acts, called

The Partizans;

Or, The War of Paris in 1649.

Scenery by Messrs. MARINARI, ANDREWS, ADAMS, and STANFIELD.

Mathieu Molé, President of the Parliament of Paris, Mr COOPER,
Marquis de Jarsay, Partizan of Cardinal Mazarine, Mr JONES,
Duke de Beaufort.... Leader of the Frondeurs.....Mr THOMPSON,
Miron,) Colonels of the (Mr C. JONES,
Favier,) City Guard (Mr CATHIE,
Perinet.....Captain of the City Guard.....Mr WEBSTER,
De Boisle, Mr YOUNGE,
Monsieur Papelard, a wealthy Mercer, Mr LISTON,
Henri, his Son, Mr J. VINING,
Chouxfleur, Papelard's Gardener, MrHUGHES, Dubois, MrSALTER
Blanc Mesnil,) Presidents au (Mr S. JONES,
Novion,) Mortier (Mr HOWELL,
First Frondeur, Mr YARNOLD, Second Frondeur, Mr COWIN,
Bernard, the President's Swiss Porter, Mr GATTIE,
First Cavalier... Mr LEE, Second Cavalier....Mr E. VINING,
Soldier, Mr HONNER,
City Guard.....Messrs. Brown, Brady, Field, Darling, and Eccles.
Councillors, Courtiers, Frondeurs, Halberdiers, Populace, &c.
Georgette, Papelard's Niece, Miss LOVE,
In which she will introduce the Cavatina of '*The Archer Boy.*'
Genevieve de Bourbon, Duchess de Longueville, Miss ELLEN TREE,
Susan, Mrs KENDALL.

After which, (19th time) a new Grand Opera, called

MASANIELLO;

Or, the Dumb Girl of Portici.

The Music composed by Auber, and produced by Mr. T. Cooke.

Masaniello, (a Neapolitan Fisherman) Mr BRAHAM,
Don Alphonso, (Son of the Viceroy of Naples) Mr T. COOKE,
Lorenzo, (Alphonso's Friend) Mr LEE,
Pietro, } Friends of Masaniello, } Mr BEDFORD,
Ruffino, } and } Mr BLAND,
Moreno, } Leaders of the Revolt } Mr YARNOLD,
Selva, Mr C. JONES, Commissioner, Mr FENTON.
Nobles, Peasants, Pages, Neapolitan Fisherman, Lazzaroni, &c
Elvira, (Bride of Alphonso) Miss BETTS,
Fenella....(Masaniello's Sister).....Mademoiselle ALEXANDRINE,
Inis, Miss WESTON,
Principal Dancers, Mr GILBERT, Mr OSCAR BYRNE,
Misses ANGELICA, ROSA BYRNE, BASEKE, RYAL, &c.

To-morrow, The Partizans, and Masaniello.